

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 OPORTO 00005 061554Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAB-01 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

OPR-02 ACDA-05 SAJ-01 /069 W

----- 122733

R 060830Z JAN 76

FM AMCONSUL OPORTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 772

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OPORTO 0005

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PO, MILI

SUBJECT: NEW YEARS WEEK IN THE NORTH: MORE CONFRONTATION

1. SUMMARY: NEW YEARS WEEK DEVELOPMENTS IN THE NORTH FOCUSED AROUND JAN 1 ATTEMPTED ASSAULT AT CUSTOIAS PRISON AND SERVED TO FURTHER POLARIZE SENTIMENTS LEADING TO RENEWED VIOLENCE. LEFTIST INSTALLATIONS WERE TARGETS FOR GUNFIRE IN BRAGA. FIRST VICTIM MS OF CUSTOIAS ASSAULT WERE BURIED IN OPORTO WITH FULL COMMUNIST (PCP) HONORS WHICH TRIGGERED SCUFFLES WITH ANTI-COMMUNIST HECKLERS. END SUMMARY.

2. BRAGA HIGH NOON. UNKNOWN ASSAILANTS USED AUTOMATIC WEAPONS IN THREE SEPARATE INCIDENTS BEFORE DAWN JAN 3. THEY SHOT UP A LEFTIST BOOKSHOP, FIRED AT POPULAR DEMOCRATIC UNION (UDP) OFFICES, AND MACHINE-GUNNED A CAR JUST PURCHASED FROM DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT (MDP/CDE) MILITANT. NO INJURIES WERE REPORTED.

3. OPORTO STREET FIGHTING. SCUFFLING BROKE OUT JAN 4 AT OPORTO STADIUM AFTER SOCCER MATCH. ATTEMPTS BY CIVILIAN AND MILITARY POLICE TO RESTORE ORDER WERE GREETED WITH VOLLEY OF STONES WHICH FELLED, AMONG OTHERS, OPORTO CHIEF OF POLICE. FISTS AND BOTTLES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 OPORTO 00005 061554Z

ALSO FLEW DURING JAN 5 FUNERAL PROCESSION OF CUSTOIAS CASUALTY

WHEN COMMUNIST MARCHERS FOUGHT ANTI-COMMUNIST HECKLERS.

4. CUSTOIAS PRISON ASSAULT. AT LEAST THREE MORE PEOPLE WERE REPORTEDLY TREATED FOR WOUNDS RECEIVED DURING NEW YEARS DAY ATTEMPTED ASSAULT ON CUSTOIAS PRISON. ONE OF THOSE ALREADY HOSPITALIZED DIED JAN 3 BRINGING DEATH TOLL TO FOUR. THERE IS MOUNTING EVIDENCE THAT SMALL GROUP OF ARMED INDIVIDUALS HAD MINGLED WITH LEFTIST CROWD OF SEVERAL THOUSAND OUTSIDE PRISON WALLS WITH EXPRESS PURPOSE OF PROVOKING CUSTOIAS ASSAULT. AT LEAST ONE OF THE INJURED WAS WOUNDED BY PISTOL SHOT. ASSAULT ALSO COINCIDED WITH ACTION OF SOME IMPRISONED LEFTIST MILITARY WHO TEMPORARILY SUCCEEDED IN BREAKING OUT OF THEIR CELLS ACCORDING TO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT BY PRISON AUTHORITIES. OPORTO'S CENTER DAILY, "COMERCIO DO PORTO", REPORTS JAN 6 THAT SOME DEMONSTRATORS WERE PAID TO PARTICIPATE IN JAN 1 CUSTOIAS MELEE.

5. LEFTIST REACTION. AFTER HESITATING A DAY, LOCAL COMMUNISTS (PCP) HAVE EMBRACED FIRST TWO PORTUGUESE CASUALTIES AT CUSTOIAS AS THEIR OWN MILITANTS. FUNERALS WERE CONDUCTED JAN 4 AND 5 WITH FULL PCP HONORS, INCLUDING FLAG-DRAPED CASKETS AND REPETITIVE SINGING OF INTERNATIONALE. SOME TWO THOUSAND ATTENDED EACH DAY. PCP HERE IS NOW MORE DIRECTLY BEHIND EFFORTS BY LEFT-LINING ORGANIZATIONS TO EFFECT RELEASE OF NOV 25 MILITARY DETAINEES. LOCAL COMMUNIST-CONTROLLED METALLURGICAL UNION HAS ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT NOV 25 WAS "RIGHTIST COUP" AND DEMANDED IMMEDIATE DISARMING OF POLICE AND NATIONAL GUARD (GNR).

6. PREDICTIONS OF VIOLENCE. LEADING OPORTO MEMBER OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC CENTER PARTY (CDS) TOLD ME JAN 5 THAT HIS PARTY FEARED COMMUNIST ATTACKS ON CDS LOCAL OFFICES IN REPETITION OF LAST SPRING. "COMERCIO DO PORTO" ALSO PUBLISHED YEAR END FRONT PAGE REPORT ENTITLED "THE LEFT IS MANIPULATING REFUGEES IN THE NORTH". REPORT ALLEGES THAT LEFTISTS ARE PREPARING JANUARY COUP UNDER COVER OF CIVIL DISORDERS CAUSED BY REFUGEES. IN INTERVIEW WITH COMERCIO EDITOR, EX-PRESIDENT SPINOLA MAINTAINS THAT COMMUNISTS STILL REPRESENT CONSIDERABLE THREAT. HE SUGGESTS NOV 25 COUP ATTEMPT WAS ENGINEERED BY PCP TO GET RID OF ULTRA-FAR LEFT.

7. COMMENT: ALL INDICATIONS POINT TO RENEWED CONFRONTATION. WHILE LOCAL SENTIMENT CONTINUES TO RUN STRONGLY AGAINST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 OPORTO 00005 061554Z

COMMUNISTS, I FEEL COMMUNISTS WILL TRY TO KEEP ECONOMY ON THE DOWN SLIDE PARTICULARLY USING WHAT CONTROL THEY RETAIN IN THE UNIONS.  
PENNER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL DISORDERS, TERRORISTS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 06 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976OPORTO00005  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760003-1208  
**From:** OPOR TO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760183/aaaacvwr.tel  
**Line Count:** 111  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <03 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <06 MAY 2004 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NEW YEARS WEEK IN THE NORTH: MORE CONFRONTATION  
**TAGS:** PINT, MILI, PINS, PO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006